Import Registration of Drugs

*539. SHRI MUNAWAR HASAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the requirement of import registration of drugs has been deferred by three months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) by when Government propose to start the implementation of the registration requirements; and

(d) the total number of applications pending for import registration and by when Drug Control Officers will be abie to complete this registration?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (d) The applicability date of Notification No. GSR 604 (E) dated 24.8.2001 for registration and import of drugs in India was 1 st January 2003, which was extended upto 31.3.2003 due to logistical difficulties expressed by the Indian Pharma Industries Associations as it concerns major transitions from the earsier provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Rules. The new Registration provisions are in force from 1.4.2003.

As of 22.4.2003, 156 applications for registration are pending for evaluation. 75 applications have been found deficient for which the applicants have been advised for compliance. Receipt of applications is a continuous process. The rules provide for nine months for disposal.

Legal provisions for safety of handicapped persons

†*540. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the existing provisions of law in respect of safety of the handicapped are adequate;

(b) whether Government have received any representation to amend the existing penal code and other laws for the safety of the handicapped;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hind:.

(c) jf so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of amendments proposed to be incorporated in various Acts for the safety of handicapped persons?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights & Full Participation) act, 1995, enacted and enforced from Feb., 1996 by the Ministry of Social Justice & empowerment protects and safeguards the interests of disabled persons. It provides for both preventive and promotional aspect of rehabilitation like education, employment and vocational training, job reservation, research and manpower development, creation of barrier-free environment, rehabilitation for persons with disability, unemployment allowance forthe disabled, special insurance scheme for disabled employees and establishment of homes for persons with severe disability etc. The National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities set up in the year 2000 by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment extends support to registered organisations to provide need based services during periods of crisis in the family of the persons with disability and also promotes measures for care and protection of these persons in the event of death of their parents or guardians.

(b) No. Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has requested Department of Legal Affairs to ask Law Commission to examine whether necessary amendments in existing laws are required to safeguard the interests of the disabled persons.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Cultivation of Tea in Himachal Pradesh

3867. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total area in Himachal Pradesh, where tea is cultivated, district-wise;

(b) whether there is any possibility for production of high quality tea in the State;